

*Official  
Spelling System  
for the  
Haitian Language*



**Institute of Haitian Studies  
University of Kansas**

Occasional Paper N° 8

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Bryant C. Freeman, Ph.D.  
General Editor

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- Nº 1 - **Konstitisyon Repiblik Ayiti, 29 mas 1987.** September 1994. Pp. vi-106. Haitian-language version (official orthography) of the present Constitution, as translated by Paul Déjean with the collaboration of Yves Déjean. Introduction in English.
- Nº 2 - **Toussaint's Constitution (1801), with Introduction.** October 1994. Pp. ix-20. In French. Introduction (in English) places Constitution in its historic context and analyzes salient features.
- Nº 3 - **Bryant C. Freeman, Selected Critical Bibliography of English-Language Books on Haiti.** February 1995 (Updated). Pp. 21. More than 150 entries, with brief description of each; special list of "Top Ten." Introduction and text in English. Updated periodically.
- Nº 4 - **Strategy of Aristide Government for Social and Economic Reconstruction (August 1994).** December 1994. Pp. iv-9. Official document setting forth recovery plan for Haiti. Introduction and text in English.
- Nº 5 - **Robert Earl Maguire, Bottom-Up Development in Haiti.** January 1995. Pp. iv-63. Keynote: develop people rather than things, with case study as carried out in Le Borgne. Introduction and text in English.
- Nº 6 - **Robert Earl Maguire, Devlopman Ki Soti nan Baz nan Peyi Dayiti.** February 1995. Pp. v-71. Haitian-language version of Nº 5, in Pressoir-Faublas orthography. Introduction in English.
- Nº 7 - **Samuel G. Perkins, "On the Margin of Vesuvius": Sketches of St. Domingo, 1785-1793.** March 1995. Pp. vi-75. First-hand account by an American merchant living in Saint-Domingue during onset of the Haitian Revolution. Introduction analyzes strong and weak points of narrative. Index of Proper Names.
- Nº 8 - **Official Spelling System for the Haitian Language.** April 1995. Pp. 27. Text of official Haitian government edict of 28 September 1979, in Haitian. Editor's remarks in English on subsequent contemporary usage and brief pronunciation guide. Eleven pages chosen to illustrate good usage of official system, plus brief examples of the three major preceding orthographies. Introduction traces development of the four major systems.
- Nº 9 - **Organization Charts of the Haitian Judiciary and Military.** May 1995. Pp. 10. Two charts of Haitian judicial system - one in French and English, other in French only. Three charts in French of Armed Forces of Haiti (1993) and one of Port-au-Prince police; officer and enlisted ranks with insignia (in French and English). Introduction in English.
- Nº 10 - **Tèt Kole Ti Peyizan Ayisyen, Dosye Chèf Seksyon: Chèf Seksyon - Yon Sistèm Ki Merite Elimine.** June 1995. Pp. vi-52. Detailed, scathing account of the institution of section chiefs as of March 1991, compiled by a leading Haitian peasant group. Much exact information. Introduction in English, text in Haitian (official orthography).

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## OFFICIAL SPELLING SYSTEM FOR THE HAITIAN LANGUAGE

This is the eighth in a series of documents concerning Haiti to be made more readily available through the University of Kansas Institute of Haitian Studies. We often receive requests for information concerning the official spelling system for the Haitian language, as well as inquiries about previous systems. In September 1979 the Haitian government published the three pages reproduced here (pp. 5-7) on how Haitian Creole is to be written, but unfortunately this material did not receive wide distribution. Thus we are presenting it below, along with a brief account of the three major systems which preceded it, with examples of each system.

The earliest writings in Haitian were simply spelled more or less following the norms, or vagaries, of French orthography, the so-called **Etymological** system. However with the increasing recognition beginning in the 1940's of Haitian as a separate, viable, language, it became more and more evident that there was no reason to impose a complicated, often erratic spelling system imitated from a European language ("linguistic colonialism") upon a language in which publications were finally beginning to appear. Thus in the early 1940's H. Ormonde McConnell, a Methodist missionary from Northern Ireland long resident in Haiti, enlisted the aid of Frank C. Laubach (1884-1970), an American linguist whose specialty was establishing written norms for previously unwritten languages. The result was the spelling system called **McConnell-Laubach**, and whose hallmark, as with succeeding systems, was to indicate each sound in only one way. Two of its characteristics however were the use of the circumflex to indicate nasalization (i.e., â for **an**, ê for **en**, ô for **on**), and the use of the letter w (e.g., **wa** for **oua**, **wi** for **oui**). These two features especially met with disapproval from many Haitians accustomed to French orthography, with the result that Charles-Fernand Pressoir, a Haitian lawyer and accountant, and Lelio Faublas, a Haitian professor, proposed a similar system which indicated nasalization by **an**, **in**, and **on**, as in French, and similarly retained **ou** instead of using a **w**. This system is referred to as either the **Pressoir-Faublas** system, or, following its adoption by the adult education program, as the **ONEC-ONAAC** system. It met with wide approval and was used for the great majority of publications from 1950 up until the early 1980's.

However on 28 September 1979, influenced perhaps by Alain Bentolila, a French professor of linguistics at the University of Paris, the Ministry of National Education of the Haitian government gave for the first time official approval to a system of spelling for Haitian. This system, perfected by the Institut Pédagogique National in Port-au-Prince, is called the **IPN** or **Official** system. Initially it encountered widespread opposition, but especially following the publication in 1982 of an elementary Haitian reader entitled **Pòl ak Anita** which received wide distribution in the schools of Haiti, this system met with an ever-increasing degree of acceptance. With its earlier adoption by the Protestant Haitian-language monthly **Boukan** in 1980, and in 1985 by the Catholic Haitian-language monthly **Bon Nouvèl**, it has become today

the only spelling system used by virtually all those publishing in the language, and the one taught in the schools of Haiti.

However, many teachers in both the public and private schools complained that there was no illustrated spelling guide to the language which they were now called upon to teach. As a result, in June 1988 was published the **Diksyonè Otograf Kreyòl Ayisyen** by Pierre Vernet, Director of the Center for Applied Linguistics of the University of Haiti, and myself (Pòtoprens: Sant Lengwistik Aplike, Inivèsite Leta Ayiti, paj iii-89). It received the official approval of the Ministry of National Education, the National Pedagogical Institute, the Protestant Committee on Literacy, as well as the adult literacy program, and has been rather widely distributed in the schools of Haiti.

Now that Haiti finally has an officially recognized orthography, and which has gained very wide acceptance, it is indeed hoped that the futile, sterile, divisive quarrels of the past concerning form will cease. One must recognize that all spelling systems are arbitrary, that none are perfect. There is no more effective way to sabotage the acceptance of a language than continually to change, or attempt to change, its basic written form. The essential is to agree on a certain uniformity so that both writer and reader can concentrate on substance rather than form, and get on with the task of creating in the Haitian language works worthy of the Haitian people.

Bryant Freeman

# jan pou ekri kreyòl

*Se konsa Edikasyon Nasyonal mande pou ekri lang lan.*

## Vwayel yo

1. <u>Vwayèl bouch</u>	2. <u>Vwayèl bouch-nen</u>
a : ase, latè, leta	an : anlè, zandolit, devan
e : elèv, redi, rale	en : enbesil, pentad, lapen
è : ès-ès, kèk, ankè	on : onz, ponpe, pantalon
i : istwa, pit, anasi	oun : ounsi, mazounbèl, youn
ui : zuit, uit, jesui	
o : ochan, foli, mato	
ò : òfèy, gòl, gadò	
ou : ouvriye, goud, kalfou	

## Konsòn yo

b : bal, debat, kapab	m : malad, enfimite, dam
ch : chat, rache, rach	n : nas, zepina, bekasin
d : daso, kadas, gad	ng : ling, touhing
f : fal, rafal, saf	p : poto, rapadou, pap
g : garaj, bagay, bag	r : rat, marasa
h : ha, branhang, enhen	s : sik, dousi, sous
j : jalou, kajou, raj	t : taso, titato, tèt
k : kad, makawon, avèk	v : vakabon, lave, rèv
l : lavi, palè, fasil	z : zafè, razè, raz

### Vwayèl-Konsòn

1.- w	2.- y
wa : watè, lakwa	ya : faya, pyas
wan : wanga, lakwann	yan : yanvalou, pyan
we : wete, dwe	ye : peye, katye
wè : wè, jwèt	yè : ayè, soupyè
wen : wench, kwen	yen : anyen, kretyen
wi : witi, kwi	yo : koyo, konfyolo
wo : wotè, gwo	yò : miyò, dyòl, biyòt
wò : wòl, bwòs	yon : bouyon, pyon
won : wont, fwonte	you : you, pyout
wou : woule, kwout	

### ATANSYON

wo, wò, won, wou, kapab ekri: ro, rò, ron, rou

### EGZANP

rotè, gro, ròl, bròs, ront, fronte, roule, krout.

## SIY ESPESYAL

### 1. Ti tirè

Nou kapab sèvi ak ti tirè, si nou vle, pou makònen yon mo ak kèk fòm gramè ki vini apre li, tankou:

- fòm atik defini yo:  
fi-a, nèg-la, pèlen-an, fanm-nan
- fòm adjektif posesif yo:  
papa-li, pitit-mwen
- pwonon konpleman retresi yo:  
nèg-la di-m li te wè-m yè.

### 2. Apostwòf

Nou kapab sèvi ak apostwòf pou pwonon sijè yo:

- . m' vini rele ou epi ou pa vini.
- . Jèda pa la, l'al lekòl.

m' , n' , l' se mo tankou tout lòt mo. Fò nou kite yon ti espas anvan nou kòmansé ekri mo ki vini apre a.

### 3. Aksan

Nou sèvi ak aksan pou fè:

- e tounen è : pale, palè
- o tounen ò : lo, lò
- a devan "n" pa tounen "an" :  
van, vàn ...  
pan, pàn

## KA ESPESYAL

Lè yo pwononse vwayèl "ou" on jan nan nen san pa gen yon konsòn-nen tou pre li, nou mete "n". Nou jwen ka sa yo sitou nan mo kreyòl ki sòti nan lang afriken.

EGZANP: ounsi, ounfò, oungan ...



N.B.

Note that the letter **c** occurs only in the combination **ch**; a 'hard' **c** is expressed by a **k**, a 'soft' **c** by an **s**. The letter **u** occurs only in the combinations **ou** and **ui**. The letters **q** and **x** are never used.

There is only one diacritic, the grave accent (**`**), occurring only on **à**, **è**, and **ò**.

Since the publication in 1979 of the three preceding pages, there has been a tendency among some to write **-wi-** rather than **-ui-** (see page 5 under "**Vwayèl bouch**"). Thus we find **zwit** rather than **zuit**, **jeswi** rather than **jesui**, **nwit** rather than **nuit**, **nwizans** rather than **nuizans**. However **ui** occurring at the beginning of a word is still almost always written **uit**, **uisan**, **uitè** etc.

For the indefinite article, one finds **yon** far more often than **you** (see page 6 under "**Vwayèl-Konsòn**").

Although on page 6 it is noted that **wo**, **wò**, **won** and **wou** may be written **ro**, **rò**, **ron** and **rou**, this is now almost never the case, and one almost always finds **wotè**, **gwo**, **wòl**, **bwòs**, **wont**, **fwonte**, **woule**, **kwout** etc.

On page 7, under "**Siy Espesyal**," it is noted that the hyphen (**ti tirè**) and the apostrophe (**apostwòf**) may be used in certain cases, but this is not now the general usage. Thus one finds: **fi a**, **nèg la**, **pèlen an**, **fanm nan**, **papa li**, **pitit mwen**, **Nèg la di m li te wè m yè**, etc. Similarly, one finds: **M vini rele ou epi ou pa vini**, and **Jèda pa la, l al lekòl**, etc. Thus neither the hyphen nor the apostrophe is in general use.

For those less familiar with the Haitian language, it has been suggested that we reproduce here the brief Pronunciation Guide from our *Survival Creole* (Port-au-Prince: La Presse Evangélique, rev. ed. 1992, pp. 32).

The pronunciation of Haitian Creole is not a great problem for speakers of English. First, the language has few of the seemingly exotic (for Americans!) sounds of French; and secondly, its almost phonetic spelling system is a clear guide.

**HAITIAN CREOLE IS SPELLED AS IT IS PRONOUNCED - AND PRONOUNCED AS IT IS SPELLED. EACH LETTER IS PRONOUNCED - AND EACH SOUND IS WRITTEN ONLY ONE WAY.** Naturally to acquire a good accent, one will need to work with tapes and/or a Haitian teacher. You will find however that Haitians are flattered by those who want to learn their true language, and are only too willing to help.

Sounds which could initially puzzle the speaker of English are:

**ch** - as in ghow: **chache** (to look for)

**ò** - as in pw, saw: **ò** (strong)

**e** - as in aim: **ede** (to help)

**ou** - as in food: **ou** (you)

**è** - as in leg: **mèsi** (thank you)

**r** - not rolled, very soft, pronounced at back of throat: **respire** (to breathe)

**g** - always "hard," as in go: **gen** (to have)

**s** - always pronounced as an "s," never like a "z": **prese** (in a hurry)

**i** - as in bee: **isit** (here)

**j** - avoid a "d" in front: **jou** (day)

**y** - as in yes: **pye** (foot), **sibye** (car)

**o** - as in toe: **zo** (bone)

**NASAL SOUNDS** are pronounced partially through the nose, but without the "n" itself pronounced. There are no real English equivalents, but are close to:

**an** - somewhat like alms: **dan** (tooth)

**en** - as in the name Chopin: **pen** (bread)

**on** - somewhat like don't: **bon** (good)

**NOTES:**

1) When a nasal sound is followed by a second "n" or by an "m," pronounce the nasal sound as usual, plus the "n" or "m" separately: **vennn** (vein), **janmm** (leg).

2) When the letters **an**, **en**, or **on** are not meant to indicate a nasal sound, a grave accent (') is placed over the vowel: **pànn** (mechanical breakdown), **Ayisyèn** (Haitian woman), **mòn** (hill, mountain).

3) The combination **in** never indicates a nasal sound.

To illustrate the guidelines outlined by the Haitian Ministry of National Education, we present examples of Haitian as it is being written today, taken from three outstanding sources. First are excerpts from the current Haitian Constitution of 1987, using the masterful translation by Paul Déjean, with the participation of his brother Yves Déjean. These are followed by three editorials from recent issues of **Libète**, now the most widely read newspaper in Haiti, published entirely in an exemplary Haitian. As a final example of the official spelling system, we reproduce from **Dyakout** "Mèsi, Desalin," the famous poem of probably the greatest poet of the Haitian language, Félix Morisseau-Leroy, and which is traditionally recited on Haitian Independence Day, January 1. It was first published in 1953, using the etymological system of spelling, but its author has subsequently republished it using the official spelling system. Thus as an illustration of this earlier system, we present further on part of the same poem as originally published. For the McConnell-Laubach system is a folktale from Robert A. Hall, Jr., **Haitian Creole** (Philadelphia: American Folklore Society, 1953). To illustrate the Pressoir-Faublas system, we have chosen passages from one of the monuments of the language, the Old and New Testaments of the Bible, **Bib la: Paròl Bondié an Ayisyin**, translated by a team of Haitian scholars under the direction of Father Roger Désir, a leading Haitian Protestant Episcopal priest.

**DEKLARASYON**

**Pèp Ayisyen deklare: li dakò ak konstitisyon sa a.**

**1.**

**Konstitisyon sa a la, pou li asire tout dwa Pèp Ayisyen vin genyen depi li endepandan, depi an 1804:**

**Dwa pou tout Ayisyen jwenn lavi.**

**Dwa pou tout Ayisyen viv lib.**

**Dwa pou tout Ayisyen viv alèz.**

**Dwa sa yo, menm avèk sa Nasyonzini deklare an 1948 sou dwa tout kretyen vivan genyen sou latè beni. Se dwa yo pa janm kapab wete nan men pèp Ayisyen.**

**2.**

**Konstitisyon sa a la, pou peyi d Ayiti kapab mèt tèt li. Pou li kapab mèt richès li. De kwa pou tout Ayisyen egal ego vre, e pou tout Ayisyen rive jwenn jistis tout bon vre.**

**3.**

**Konstitisyon sa a la, pou peyi d Ayiti kanpe solid, pou li kanpe an fòm, an pami tout nasyon. Pou li pa restavèk okenn lòt peyi. Pou li kenbe tou sa ki fè Ayisyen, se Ayisyen tout bon, ni nan sa yo mete konfyans yo ladan, ni nan jan yo viv, ni nan fason youn sèvi ak lòt.**

**4.**

**Konstitisyon sa a la, pou demokrasi pouse bon rasin nan peyi a. Pou tout moun gen dwa suiv lide yo lib. Pou direksyon peyi a pa toujou rete nan men menm moun ak menm gwoup moun tout tan. Pou pèsonn moun pa janm ka rive rache dwa pèp Ayisyen nan men l.**

**5.**

**Konstitisyon sa a la, pou pèp Ayisyen mache men nan men, nan tèt ansanm, nèt ale, san pa gen okenn chire pit: ni sou afè moun lavil ak moun andeyò, ni sou afè lang, ni sou sa moun kwè ak sou sa**

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moun konnen, piske tout moun nan peyi a, fèt pou yo jwenn bon lekòl pou yo aprann, bon fòmasyon pou yo ogmante konesans yo, bon swen, bon jan travay, bon jan detant, ak bon jan mwayen pou yo refè sante yo.

6.

Konstitisyon sa a la, pou li pèmèt gwoup endepandan ki nan sèvis pèp la fè travay yo korèk, san youn pa nui lòt.

7.

Konstitisyon sa a la, pou peyi d Ayiti kapab mache selon prensip ki respektè tout dwa tout kretyen vivan genyen:

Dwa pou yo viv lib. Dwa pou yo viv alèz. Dwa pou yo toujou kapab di mo pa yo, nan jan peyi a dwe mache. Dwa pou se pa, ni yon ti ponyen moun sèlman, ni moun ki chita yon sèl kote nan peyi a sèlman, ki deside tout bagay, pou tout peyi a.

**Nimewo 24:**

Leta anchaje pwoteje libète chak moun.

**Nimewo 24-1:**

Yo pa gen dwa ni al dèyè yon moun, ni arete l, ni mete l nan prizon, san se pa pou yon rezon lalwa prevwa, ak jan lalwa di sa dwe fèt.

**Nimewo 24-2:**

Yo pa gen dwa arete pèsonn ni yo pa gen dwa fèmen pèsonn moun nan prizon san se pa ak yon manda yon otorite, lalwa bay pouvwa ekri manda sa a, sòf si yo ta bare moun nan, nan men.

**Nimewo 24-3:**

Men sa ki nesèsè, pou yo gen dwa sèvi ak manda sa a:

1) Rezon ki fè yo arete yon moun, ou byen rezon ki fè yo fèmen yon moun nan prizon, se pou manda a esplike sa klè, ni an kreyòl, ni an franse. Manda a dwe deklare tou, ki sa lalwa di sou jan yo dwe pini zak yo repwoche moun nan.

2) Lemoman yo vin sèvi ak manda a, lalwa mande pou yo avèti moun yo akize a. E, se pou yo kite yon kopi manda a nan men l.

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**Nimewo 5:**

Sèl lang ki simante tout Ayisyen ansanm, se lang kreyòl. Kreyòl ak franse, se lang ofisyèl repiblik d Ayiti.

**Nimewo 213:**

Yo mete yon Akademi Ayisyen pou li fikse lang kreyòl la e pou li fè l kapab devlope anfòm, ann òd epi selon prensip lasyans.

**Nimewo 27:**

Dezobeyi lwa ki pwoteje libète chak moun, se zak gwo ponyèt. Moun yo fè abi sa yo, gen dwa al nan tribinal ki la pou sa, san yo pa mande okenn pèmasyon. Yo gen dwa mande pinasyon pou tout moun ki fè zak gwo ponyèt sa yo, ansanm ak moun ki te ede yo fè zak sa yo. Yo te mèt sa yo te ye. Yo te mèt nan gwo plas Leta.

**Nimewo 28:**

Tout Ayisyen gen dwa di sa yo panse, lib, jan yo pito.

**Nimewo 30:**

Tout relijyon ak tout kwayans lib. Chak moun lib suiv relijyon pa yo, ak kwayans pa yo, depi sa yo fè a, pa kontrarye dwa okenn moun, ni dwa okenn gwoup moun nan peyi a.

**Nimewo 31:**

Moun gen dwa reyini lib depi zam pa ladan. Moun lib fè asosiyasyon yo vle, pou tout kòz. Ni pou politik. Ni sou koze lajan. Ni sou lavi peyi a. Ni sou richès ki nan sèvo ak nan lide pèp la. Ni pou tout lòt mouvman ki dèyè lapè.

**Nimewo 32-2:**

Premye travay leta, ak moun ki alatèt chak zòn peyi a, se fè yon jan pou tout moun rive al lekòl. Se sèl jan yo va kapab mete peyi a sou wout pwogrè vre. Tout moun ki vle bay konkou nan travay sa a, fèt pou yo jwenn ankourajman ak avantaj nan men leta.

## Sispann touye peyi a!

**D**epi lendepandans, se toujou yon ti ponyen jwisè k ap fè banbòch sou do majorite pèp ayisyen an k ap manje mizè ak kras, k ap viv tankou rat nan kay an katon ak tach palmis.

Grandon san konsyans yo trete malere peyizan tankou bèt, alòske y ap trimen di pou pote manje ba yo. Yo vòlè tè yo, epi yo arete yo, bat yo, fèmen yo lan prizon met sou sa. Se tankou esklav yo konsidere malere malèrèz k ap viv nan bidonvil e k ap fè kòve pou po patat nan faktori zotobre.

"Nèg ak nègès pye sal gwo zòtèy, santi fò". Se konsa dilè k ap fè lajan fasil nan tout kalite rakèt, sèvi ak mas pèp la.

Chak fwa yo leve tè yo pou reklame omwen dwa pou yo viv tankou moun, yon ti ponyen sivil ak militè mete pye sou kou yo, detwi lavi yo anba kout zam fann fwa. "Se nan labou nou fèt, se la nou dwe rete".

Se sa ki rive yon lòt fwa ankò ak koudeta beny san 30 septanm lan, lè fòs ki pako vle chanjman an, sasinen plis pase 3.000 Ayisyen pandan yo kokobe espwa tout yon pèp. Men yo pat konnen pèp sa a te gen tan pran gou demokrasi pandan 7 mwa.

Se poutèt sa, apre 16 mwa nan lanfè represyon gouvènman defakto yo, pèp ayisyen an rete djanm ak menm konviksyon an nan tè li: konviksyon pou l lite jis nan bout pou fè demokrasi a tounen, konviksyon pou l batay jis mayi mi pou reprann zouti konstitisyon an avèk lwa peyi a mete nan men l pou amelyore lavi l.

Gen yon bagay ki klè. E ti ponyen egoyis ki fin souse peyi a ta dwe deja konprann li: mas pèp la pap tounen ni mouton ni zonbi ankò nan men yo. Fò yo wè sa pandan 16 dènye mwa ki sot pase la a.

Kon sa, prezans obsèvatè Nasyonzi ak OEA nan peyi a, se yon okazyon pou sektè ki pran tout richès peyi a pou yo, e ki lage majorite a nan esklavaj, bat lestomak yo, repare tò yo, epi konprann Ayiti pa pou yo sèlman.

Se moman pou tout sektè k ap apiye enjistis oubyen k ap patisipe ladan l, fè meya koulpa yo. Se moman pou otorite moral yo rekonèt, san blòf fwa sa a, "se pèp la ki aktè listwa l". Se moman pou madanm kòmanse refize kouche sou menm kabann ak yon seri mari ki rantre vin jwenn yo plenmennwit chaje lajan ak tout lodè kadav sou yo, kadav manm òganizasyon popilè, militan politik, etidyan.... Se pou pitit ki gen papa yo chèf oubyen atache, kòmanse poze nèg sa yo kesyon sou aktivite y ap mennen lajounen ak lè yo pa antre aswè.

Lè n a aksepte tout bon, peyi a se pa byen nèg ki gen gwo zam ak voum lajan, pèp ayisyen ap ka viv tankou moun e tout moun ap santi yo alèz.

Libète □



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## Pèp la fè yon rèv...

**P**èp la fè rèv yon lòt polis, pèp la fè rèv yon polis tou nèf, ki pa nan zenglendo, ki pa nan kraze zo. Pèp la fè yon rèv tou nèf, yon polis tou nèf, ki rekonèt pèp la gen dwa, ki respektè tout fòs lalwa. Pèp la fè yon gwo rèv, yon polis nèg serye, ki la tout tan pou ede.

Pèp la fè rèv yon polis djanm, ki pa nan bay manti, ki pa nan detwi lavi. Pèp la fè yon rèv yon polis ki pap fè moun pè, ki pap fè pèp la pran luil ak kafe anmè. Pèp la fè yon rèv je klè.

Pèp la reve l ap revandike yon lòt kalite lavi, kote li pap bezwen gen lajan pou jwenn sekirite. Sa fè anpil lane depi l ap travay pou rèv sa a. Li pèdi anpil pitit, fi kou gason, pou rive bati rèv sa a.

Pèp la reve l ap kontinye batay pou kraze sistèm polis chèf seksyon an, ki chèf represyon, chèf abi, chèf reselè. Pèp la deja wè rèv sa a fè moun pè: li wè tout zanmi koripsyon, kraze zo, abi, vòl ak kadejak, gen kè sote. Y ap maniganse konplo, vye konplo pou touye rèv pèp la. Yo ta renmen pou dezòd la kontinye, pou pèp la rete san pwoteksyon. Yo ta renmen masak la kontinye, pou yo fè plis kòb, pou yo gen plis kontwòl sou enstitisyon peyi a. Yo ta renmen anyen pa chanje, pou toujou gen koudeta, pou pèp la toujou rete nan fatra.

Pèp la fèk leve ak je l byen kale. Se pat rèv, se pou tout bon, li vle yon lòt polis pou pwoteje tout moun, pou fè lalwa triyonfe, pou fè lajistis valse, pou fè demokrasi blayi toupato nan peyi a. 2 zan apre kou a, rèv la toujou la. Li la pi rèd, okenn kou pap janm touye l.

Libète □



## *Fèt la fini. Travay la kòmanse.*

**P**andan plizyè jou, pandan plizyè nuit, san rete, nou fete, nou chante, nou danse, nou banboche. Prezidan nou an rantre. Jeneral Rawoul Sedras, Jeneral Byanbi, Michèl Franswa ale. Se pa ti fete nou fete.

Men, lè fèt la fini, fò n mare ren nou pou n rebati peyi a. Yon peyi ki bèk atè, yon peyi ki kraze, yon peyi ki an dèy, yon peyi yo fin fè tounen tòchon pye.

Nou pap bliye. Nou pap bliye milye moun ki mouri nan Ti Tanyen, nan Site Solèy, nan Raboto, nan Ench, nan Lafosèt, nan Jeremi, nan Basen Kayiman, nan Chantal. Nou pap bliye Soni Filojèn, Antwàn Izmeri, Gi Malari, Pè Jan Mari Vensan. Pinga nou bliye. Pinga nou sispann veye yo.

Nou pral travay pou rebati peyi nou an. Nou bezwen konkou lajan etranje. Men, nou gen kouraj, e nou konnen:

"se grès kochon ki kuit kochon". Men, nou kontan wè, vandredi ki sot pase a, peyi rich yo deside Ayiti pap dwe yo lajan ankò. Sa pral pèmèt nou resevwa plis pase 500 milyon dola ki pral ban nou yon gwo bourad.

Pa manke travay. Nou bezwen bati yon polis ki respekte moun. Nou bezwen jij ki respekte lalwa e ki pa gade sou figi moun. Nou bezwen wout, lekòl, lopital, elektrisite, telefòn, angrè, ensèktisid... Nou bezwen montre granmoun yo li ak ekri. Nou bezwen vote yon Palman ki pa gen kòbòy ak senatè fo mamit ladann. Nou bezwen fòme pwofesè, agwonòm, doktè, enfimyè. Sa pa ka fèt brid sou kou. Rès manda Aristid la pap sifi. Men, l ap kapab rekòmanse travay li te kòmanse a. Nou pral simen, pitit nou pral rekòlte.

"Men anpil, chay pa lou."

Libète ☐

*Pou J.J.D. Anbwaz*

Mèsi, Desalin  
Papa Desalin, mèsi  
Chak fwa m santi sa m ye  
M di mèsi, Desalin  
Chak fwa m tandè yon nèg koloni  
Nèg ki poko lib pale  
M di: Desalin, mèsi  
Se mwen k konnen sa ou ye pou mwen  
Mèsi, papa Desalin  
Si m yon nonm  
Se pou m di: mèsi, Desalin  
Si m ouvè je m gade  
Se gras a ou, Desalin  
Si m leve tèt mwen pou m mache  
Se gras a ou, Desalin  
Chak fwa m gade lòt nèg  
M di: mèsi, Desalin  
Lè m wè sa k ap pase lòt kote  
M di: mèsi, Desalin  
Lè m tandè blan yo pale  
M di: papa Desalin, mèsi  
Lè m tandè kèk nèg parèy mwen pale  
M di: mèsi, papa Desalin  
Se mwen k konnen sa ou ye pou mwen

Towo Desalin  
Desalin, san mwen  
Desalin, de grenn je m  
Desalin, zantray mwen  
Se mwen k konnen  
Se pou tout nèg di:  
Mèsi, Desalin  
Se ou k montre nou chimen nou  
Mèsi Desalin  
Se ou k limyè nou  
Desalin  
Se ou ki ban n tè n ap pile a  
Syèl ki sou tèt nou an  
Pyebwa, larivyè  
Lanmè, letan, se ou  
Desalin, se ou k ban n solèy  
Ki ban n lalin  
Ou ki ban n sè, frè n  
Manman, papa n, pitit nou  
Se ou ki fè n yon jan, yon mannyè  
Nou pa kou tout nèg  
Si m gade tout moun nan je  
Se ou k ap gade yo, Desalin  
Se ou ki ban n dlo pou n bwè  
Ou ki ban n manje pou n manje  
Mèsi, papa Desalin.  
Epi, se ou ki ban n kay pou n rete  
Ou ki ban n kote pou n fè jaden  
Se ou k montre n chante  
Ou k montre n di: non

Yo di gen nèg ki di: wi, wi,  
Gen nèg ki di yèssè,  
Ou montre n di: non  
Desalin, montre tout nèg  
Tout nèg sou latè di: non  
Mèsi, papa Desalin  
Gen nèg ki vle esplike:  
"Tan jodi pa tan pase  
E ke wi alèkile  
*La fraternité humaine*  
*L'humanité, la civilisation"*  
Tou sa, se franse  
Mwen menm, se Desalin m konnen  
M di: mèsi, papa m  
Se ou k fè m  
Manman m se pitit ou  
Ti gason m, ti fi m, se pitit ou tou  
Mèsi, Desalin  
Pitit pitit mwen, se pitit ou  
Wa Desalin, mèsi  
M pa bezwen pale pou drapo a!  
Pa bezwen pale pou Lakayè  
Pou Gonayiv!  
Yo di sa deja  
E ki moun k ap tandè sa ankò?  
Mès rekwiye 17 Oktòb?  
Ki moun ki pral Katedral?  
Diskou Minis?  
Ki moun k ap koute sa?  
Men, sa m di la a

Se yon sèl mo: mèsi  
Mèsi Desalin papa m  
Gen moun ki pa konnen  
Fò m di yo  
San ou nou pa ta la a  
Mèsi, papa Desalin  
Epi, fini ak Patè Nostè w la a  
Monseyè, Desalin pa mouri  
Ase pale franse, minis  
Desalin pap janm mouri  
Desalin la  
Nèg sa a ta kapab mouri!  
Desalin nan kè m  
Lamopye  
Desalin ap veye  
Yon jou, Desalin va leve  
Jou sa a, nou tout n a konnen  
N a konnen si 1804  
N a konnen si Lakayè  
N a konnen si Lakrèt-a-Pyèwo  
N a konnen si Vètyè  
Desalin te fè tou sa  
Pou ti nèg ekri pwèm  
Pou minis fè diskou  
Pou pè chante Te Deoum  
Pou Monseyè bay labsout  
Desalin pa bezwen labsout  
Tou sa Desalin fè bon  
Yon jou Desalin va leve  
W a tandè nan tout lanmè Karayib

Félix Morisseau-Leroy, "Mèsi, Desalin" - paj 5  
(Official Spelling System)

Y ape rele kote l  
Desalin pran lèzam  
Arete l  
Lè a, w a tandè vwa l kon loray  
Tout nèg koupe tèt boule kay  
W a tandè nan tout Lamerik  
Y ape rele: rete l  
Vwa Desalin déjà nan radyo  
Koupe tèt boule kay  
Nan tout *Harlem*, Desalin ap mete lòd  
W a tandè: bare Desalin  
Jouk *Dakar*  
Jouk *Johannesburg*  
W a tandè: kote Desalin pase?  
Koupe tèt boule kay  
Desalin pa bezwen labsout  
Pa bezwen padon Bondye  
Okontrè: Desalin se bra Bondye  
Desalin, se jistis Bondye  
Pa bezwen Patè Nostè Monseyè  
Ni eskiz nèg yo vle mande blan yo  
Desalin pa bezwen  
Pou tou sa l fè m di: papa Desalin, mèsi  
Pou tou sa l pral fè  
M di: mèsi, papa Desalin.

Although as noted above, many spelling systems have been proposed over the past half century, the three major ones are the etymological, the Pressoir-Faublas, and the official. Since the greatest body of material prior to 1980 was printed in the Pressoir-Faublas system, it is perhaps useful to highlight the main differences between that system and the now official one.

### **Pressoir-Faublas:**

### **Official:**

**in** (indyin) → **en** (endyen)

**é** (lété) → **e** (lete)

**i-n** (machi-n) → **in** (machin)

<b>ou</b> plus vowel	→	<b>w</b> plus vowel
(oua)		(wa)
(ouè)		(wè)
(oui)		(wi)

<b>i</b> plus vowel	→	<b>y</b> plus vowel
(tafia)		(tafya)
(Bondié)		(Bondyé)
(avion)		(avyon)

**a-n** (pa-n) → **àn** (pàn)

**MATIÉ 18**

**Parabòl mouton ki té pèdi-a**  
**(Lk 15.3-7)**

10 Atansion: Piga nou méprizé you sèl nan ti piti sa yo. Paské map di nou sa: zanj gadyin yo ki nan sièl la, sé tout tan yo la dévan Papa-m ki nan sièl la. <sup>11</sup>[Paské, Moun Bondié voyé nan lachè-a vi-n délivré sa ki té pèdi.]

12 Sa nou konprann nan sa? Si you nonm gin san mouton, épi li rété konsa li pa ouè youn ladan yo, èské li pap kité katrévindiznèf lòt yo sou mòn lan, pou l-alé chaché mouton ki pèdi-a?

13 Si-l rivé jouinn li minm, sé vré oui, sa map di nou la-a, lap pi kontan pou mouton sa-a pasé pou katrévindiznèf lòt yo ki pat pèdi. <sup>14</sup>Konsa tou, Papa nou ki nan sièl la pa ta rinmin ouè you sèl nan ti piti sa yo rivé pèdi.

**Lè you frè fè sa ki mal**  
**(Lk 17.3)**

15 Si frè ou fè ou you bagay ki mal, alé jouinn li, rélé-l apa. Fè-l ouè sa li fè-a mal. Si li kouté ou, sé mété oua mété frè ou ankò sou bon chémin. <sup>16</sup>Min, si li pa vlé kouté ou, pran youn osinon dé lòt moun avè ou. Konsa, tout bagay va réglé sou dépozision dé osinon toua témouin. <sup>17</sup>Si-l réfizé kouté yo tou, lè sa-a oua di légliz la sa. Si-l réfizé kouté légliz la, ou mèt gadé-l tankou you étranjé pou ou, tankou you pèséptè kontribision.



**Rinmin lénmi nou yo**  
**(Mt 5.38-48; 7.12a)**

27 Nou minm kap kouté-m la-a, min sa map di nou: Rinmin tout lénmi nou yo. Fè byin pou moun ki rayi nou. 28Mandé bédiksion pou moun kap ban nou madichon. Lapriyè pou moun kap maltrété nou. 29Si you moun ban nou you soufflèt sou you bò figi, viré lòt bò-a ba li. Si you moun pran lévit nou, kité-l pran chémiz nou tou. 30Ninpòt moun ki mandé nou kichòy, ba li-l. Si you moun pran sa ki pou nou, kité-l pou li. 31Tou sa nou va vlé lòt moun fè pou nou, fè-l pou yo tou.

32 Si nou plédé rinmin moun ki rinmin nou sèlman, ki bédiksion pou-n tann pou sa? Méchan yo tou yo rinmin moun ki rinmin yo. 33Si nou fè byin pou moun ki fè nou byin sèlman, ki bédiksion pou nou tann pou sa? Méchan yo fè minm jan an tou. 34Si sé moun nou konnin kap rinmèt nou nou prété sèlman, ki bédiksion pou nou tann pou sa? Méchan yo tou, yo prété méchan parèy yo ki kapab rinmèt yo sa yo té prété yo-a san mank. 35Non, nou minm sé pou nou rinmin lénmi nou yo, fè byin pou yo. Prété san nou pa mété éspoua nou sou rinmèt. Sé konsa na résévoua you gro rékonpans. Sé lè sa-a na pitit Bondié ki anro nan sièl la, paské li minm, li bon ni pou ingra ni pou méchan. 36Sé pou nou gin kè sansib minm jan Bondié, papa nou, gin kè sansib.

Yô jou, frè Lédâ trouvé mouri, li  
toujou di madâm li, li mèt mouri yô  
dimâch, sé-madi pou-li fè dènié priè li.

Sé-trouvé yô madi frè Lédâ mouri.  
Yo fè lâtèmâ-â nâ-apré-midi. Kòm  
yo kômâsé priè-a mèkrédi, dènié,  
priè-a ap-fini mèkrédi â-wit. Mè kòm  
frè Lédâ toujou di sé-pou yo fè dènié  
priè li yô madi, madâm ni biè kôsâti  
fè li madi. You madi ké tout moun  
kônê ké-dènié priè-a ap-fèt, madâm  
ni kouté bò-frè li ki di li sa-pa-kôn fèt.  
Épi li râvoyé dènié priè-a. You madi-a  
dènié moun réini, madâm-nâ di li  
râvoyé li. La-a tou, gê dé msié ki  
parèt, yo salié moun yo ki nâ-kay-la.  
Yo ofri yo chèy, yo chita. Gê yôn nâ-  
mésié yo, ki lévé, li di: “W-a-di té-gê  
yô dènié priè ki t-ap-fèt jodi-a.”  
Madâm-nâ répon: “Mwê râvoyé-l  
pou-démê.” Lôt nòm lévé bwap sou-  
chèy li, li di ak-yô fòs “Sé-pa jodi-a  
mwê té-di pou-fè dènié priè-a?” La  
tou madâm-nâ mādé “Ki moun ou  
yé?” Tou dé chèy yo vid. Madâm-nâ  
tôbé sâ-konésâs. Li mouri twa jou  
après sa. Sé-mêm nòm ki té-mouri-a  
ki té-parèt ak-défê frè li, fè madâm ni  
éplikasiô.

Pou J. J. D. AMBROISE

**M**ERCI, Dessalines  
Papa Dessalines, merci  
Chaque fois m'senti ça m'yé  
M'dis merci, Dessalines  
Chaque fois m'tendé ou nèg colonie  
Neg qui p'enco lib pa'ler  
M'di : Dessalines, merci  
C'é moin qu' connin ça ous yé pou'moin  
Merci, papa Dessalines  
Si m'oun n'homme  
C'é pou'm'di : merci, Dessalines  
Si m'ouvè gé'm ga'der  
C'é grace a ous, Dessalines  
Si m'lèvé tête moin pou'm ma'cher  
C'é grace a ous, Dessalines  
Chaque fois m' ga'dé l'aute nèg  
m'di : Merci, Dessalines  
Lô m'ouè ça qu'ap passé l'aute coté  
M'di : merci, Dessalines  
Lô-m tendé blancs yo pa'ler  
M'di : papa Dessalines merci  
Lô-m tendé quèque nèg pareil moin pa'ler  
M'di : merci, papa Dessalines  
C'é moin qu' connin ça ous yé pou'moin  
Taureau Dessalines  
Dessalines, sang moin

Dessalines, dé grainne gé'm  
Dessalines, z'entraille moin  
C'é moin qu'connin  
C'é pou toute nèg di :  
Merci, Dessalines  
C'é ous qu montrez nous chimin nous  
Merci Dessalines  
C'é ous qu' lumiè nous  
Dessalines  
C'é ous qui ban'n tè n'ap pilé-a  
Ciel qui sou tête nous-a  
Pieds bois, la riviè  
Lan mè, l'étang, c'é ous  
Dessalines, c'é ous qu'ban'n soleil  
Qui ban'n lalune  
Ous qui ba'n soe, frè'n  
Manman, papa'n, pitite nous  
C'é ous qui fait-n oun gen oun maniè  
Nous pas cou toute nèg  
Si m'ga'dé toute mounè nan gé  
C'é ous qu'ap ga'dé-yo, Dessalines  
C'é ous qui ban'n d'leau pou'n bouè  
Ous qui ban'n mangé pou'n mangé  
Merci, papa Dessalines.  
Et pi, c'é ous qui ban'n caille pou'n rété  
Ous qui ban'n coté pou'n fait jardin  
C'é ous qu'montré'n chanté  
Ous qu' montré'n di : non  
Yo di gan nèg qui di : oui, oui.  
Gan nèg qui di : yessè  
Ous montré-n di : non  
Dessalines, montrez toute neg  
Toute nèg sou la tè di : non